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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Up to \$500,000 Available for Stanislaus County's Youngest Kids Mini Grant Program focuses on Health and Safety

Prop. 10 Commission Makes Second Round Tobacco-Tax Revenue Available for Mini-Grant Programs and Services for Children up to Age 5 and Their Families

The Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission, funded by voter approved Proposition 10, has made available in its second round \$500,000 in grant opportunities to benefit children ages 0-5 and their families. The Commission through the United Way of Stanislaus County is releasing two separate Requests for Proposals (RFP's) July 1, 2002. These proposals are available to qualified grassroots and community-based organizations, faith-based and nonprofit organizations, fiscal agents on behalf of community groups, municipalities, schools, or private businesses.

The two RFP's are:

- Health & Safety: Mini-grants for programs with a specific focus on health and safety of up to a
 maximum of \$5,000. A total of \$200,000 is available for the Health and Safety Mini-Grant
 Program. Funding will become available twice a year: \$100,000 in July 2002 and \$100,000 in
 January 2003.
- Equipment: Mini-grants for equipment of up to a maximum of \$20,000. A total of \$300,000 is available for the Equipment Mini-Grant Program. Funding will become available twice a year: \$150,000 in July 2002 and \$150,000 in January 2003.

The application deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31, 2002

All projects eligible for funding cannot supplant or replace any existing resources or duplicate already existing services. Interested parties are encouraged to obtain RFP packages or additional information by calling the United Way of Stanislaus County at (209) 523-4562. The RFP's will be available on the United Way's web site at www.uwaystan.org, as well as being available at United Way office at 113 Palm Ave., Modesto.

Applicants are encouraged to attend one of the following informational workshops to learn about the application and grant process. To reserve a space, please call (209) 523-4562.

Date	Time	Location
Monday, July 8, 2002	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Modesto West Modesto Community Center, Bldg. E, Main Conference Room 401 Paradise Road, Modesto
Tuesday, July 9, 2002	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Turlock – United Samaritans, Second Floor 220 S. Broadway, Turlock
Wednesday, July 10, 2002	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Patterson – City Council, Small Room 48 N. Salado Avenue, Patterson
Thursday, July 11, 2002	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Riverbank – Rio Altura Elementary School, Cafeteria 2400 Stanislaus Avenue, Riverbank

Proposition 10 – The California Children and Families Act of 1998 – was approved by voters in November 1998. It added a 50 cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes sold in California to fund early childhood development and anti-tobacco education programs statewide. The Stanislaus County Commission is scheduled to receive nearly \$7.2 million annually in Proposition 10 funds to help improve the lives of Stanislaus County's youngest children and their families.

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